

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (U 39-E) for Approval of the 2006-2008 Energy Efficiency Programs and Budget.	Application 05-06-004 (Filed June 1, 2005)
Southern California Gas Company (U 904-G) for Approval of Natural Gas Energy Efficiency Programs and Budgets for Years 2006 Through 2008.	Application 05-06-011 (Filed June 1, 2005)
Southern California Edison Company (U 338-E), for Approval of its 2006-2008 Energy Efficiency Program Plans and Associated Public Goods Charge (PGC) and Procurement Funding Requests.	Application 05-06-015 (Filed June 2, 2005)
San Diego Gas and Electric Company (U 902-E) for Approval of Electric and Natural Gas Energy Efficiency Programs and Budgets for Years 2006 Through 2008.	Application 05-06-016 (Filed June 2, 2005)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING FINDING WOMEN'S ENERGY MATTERS ELIGIBLE TO CLAIM INTERVENOR COMPENSATION

I. Summary

Women's Energy Matters (WEM) filed a Notice of Intent (NOI) to claim intervenor compensation in this proceeding on July 22, 2005. WEM is eligible to

claim compensation pursuant to the requirements in Pub. Util. Code §§ 1801-1804.¹ No parties oppose the NOI. However, a finding of eligibility for compensation does not guarantee an award of compensation, and WEM should attempt to not duplicate other parties' efforts by taking the same approach to the same issues, as it may result in a reduction in the amount of compensation ultimately awarded.

II. NOI Requirements

A. Timely Filing

Pursuant to § 1804(a)(1), a customer who intends to seek an award of compensation shall, within 30 days after the Prehearing Conference (PHC), file and serve an NOI on all parties to the proceeding. The PHC was held on June 22, 2005, and WEM timely filed its NOI.

B. Customer Status

Pursuant to Decision (D.) 98-04-059, this ruling must determine whether the intervenor is a customer, as defined in § 1802(b), and whether the intervenor is 1) a participant representing consumers; 2) a representative authorized by a customer; or 3) a representative of a group or organization that is authorized by its bylaws or articles of incorporation to represent the interests of residential ratepayers.²

¹ All statutory references are to the Pub. Util. Code.

² "When filing its Notice of Intent, a participant should state how it meets the definition of customer: as a *participant* representing consumers, as a *representative* authorized by a customer, or as a representative of a *group or organization* that is authorized by its bylaws or articles of incorporation to represent the interests of residential customers." D.98-04-059, *mimeo.* at 28-29 (emphasis in original).

WEM meets this requirement as an organization authorized by its bylaws to represent the interests of residential or small commercial customers, as defined in § 1802(b)(1)(C).

C. Significant Financial Hardship

Only those customers for whom participation or intervention would impose a significant financial hardship may receive intervenor compensation. Section 1804(a)(2)(B) allows the customer to include a showing of significant financial hardship in its NOI or, alternatively, in its request for compensation. WEM has chosen to make this showing in its request for compensation.

D. Nature and Extent of Planned Participation

Section 1804(a)(2)(A)(i) requires NOIs to include a statement of the nature and extent of the customer's planned participation in the proceeding to the extent this can be predicted. WEM expects to participate actively in all phases of this proceeding. To the extent possible, WEM will coordinate its individual participation with that of other parties to avoid duplication.

E. Itemized Estimate of Compensation

Section 1804(a)(2)(A)(ii) requires that NOIs include an itemized estimate of the compensation the customer expects to receive. WEM estimates a total projected budget of \$70,000 for this case, as detailed below, based on proposed hourly rates it will address in its request for compensation.

Amount	Description
\$56,000	320 hours of expert time by Barbara George at \$175/hour
\$12,000	40 hours of attorney time by Dan Meek at \$300/hour
\$2,000	Miscellaneous Costs
\$70,000	Total

WEM satisfactorily presents an itemized estimate of the compensation it expects to request, although we will require far more specificity in the costs when it ultimately seeks compensation. Moreover, the number of hours and the hourly rates may be excessive and, as must any intervenor, WEM must fully support its request for compensation, including the reasonableness of the hours spent and hourly rates.

IT IS RULED that:

1. Women's Energy Matters (WEM) has met the eligibility requirements of Pub. Util. Code § 1804(a), and is found eligible for compensation in this proceeding.
2. WEM is a customer as that term is defined in § 1802(b) and is a group or organization that is authorized by its bylaws or articles of incorporation to represent the interests of residential ratepayers.
3. A finding of eligibility in no way assures compensation.
4. WEM shall file information to establish a condition of significant financial hardship in its request for compensation.
5. WEM shall make every effort to reduce duplication of contribution.

Dated November 10, 2005, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ MEG GOTTSTEIN by LTC

Meg Gottstein
Administrative Law Judge

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have by mail this day served a true copy of the original attached Administrative Law Judge's Ruling Finding Women's Energy Matters Eligible to Claim Intervenor Compensation on all parties of record in this proceeding or their attorneys of record.

Dated November 10, 2005, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ JOYCE TOM

Joyce Tom

N O T I C E

Parties should notify the Process Office, Public Utilities Commission, 505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 2000, San Francisco, CA 94102, of any change of address to insure that they continue to receive documents. You must indicate the proceeding number on the service list on which your name appears.